

**Washington, DC** – Congressman Rob Wittman (VA-1) was elected today to serve as Chairman of the United States Naval Academy (USNA) Board of Visitors. After a unanimous vote of the current board, Wittman accepted the duty to serve as Chairman for the upcoming year.

“It is an honor to serve on the Board of Visitors for the United States Naval Academy, and I am humbled to accept the position as Chairman,” Wittman said. “Thousands of midshipmen receive a fine education and train to serve our country at the Naval Academy, one of the finest military institutions in the world. I look forward to serving on the board as we continue our work to ensure that this training and education remains at the highest standard. And with a rich military history in Virginia and America’s First District, I am proud to represent 46 midshipmen currently attending the USNA, and hundreds of alumni within my district and across Virginia.”

The First District of Virginia has a significant concentration of Naval Academy alumni, with many active Navy and Marine Corps officers serving in the Hampton Roads and Quantico areas.

The duty of the academy's Board of Visitors is to inquire into the state of morale and discipline, the curriculum, instruction, physical equipment, fiscal affairs, academic methods, and other matters relating to the academy which the board decides to consider. The board consists of six members appointed by the President, three appointed by the Vice President, four appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, one designated by the Senate Armed Services Committee and one designated by the House Committee on Armed Services. The President of the United States receives an annual written report of the Board's findings and recommendations.

Other Members of Congress serving on the board include U.S. Senators John McCain (R, AZ), Barbara A. Mikulski (D, MD), Ben Cardin (D, MD), Lisa A. Murkowski (R, AK), and House Representatives Dutch Ruppersberger (D, MD), Elijah Cummings (D, MD), John P. Kline (R, MN), and Rodney Frelinghuysen (R, NJ). Former Member of Congress Nancy Johnson (R, CT) will serve as Vice-Chair.

*Congressman Rob Wittman represents the First District of Virginia. He serves on the Natural Resources Committee and the Armed Services Committee where he is the Ranking Member of the Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee.*

